

EAST BAY LABOR JOURNAL

THE ONLY OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF ORGANIZED LABOR IN ALAMEDA COUNTY

OWNED, CONTROLLED and PUBLISHED by AFL CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL of ALAMEDA COUNTY and BUILDING and CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL of ALAMEDA COUNTY

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REPORT To Our Readers - Owners

NO LEGION BLACKLIST?

James O'Neil, a former national commander of the Legion and publisher of its national magazine, told the House Committee on Un-American Activities that the Legion "never associated with blacklisting" of Hollywood personages. His testimony was given as the result of the House committee's "study" of the Fund for the Republic's recently published "Report on Blacklisting."

Shortly before O'Neil testified there were dispatches from Philadelphia telling of Legion posts' campaign against the appearance in a stage play of Gale Sondergaard, whose husband pleaded the Fifth Amendment in 1947 before the House committee, and who later did the same herself.

This action by the Philadelphia Legion posts led a writer in Labor Daily to state that "having helped in getting Communists and 'associates' of Communists barred from employment in the movie, television and radio industries, the American Legion and other private groups may be turning their attention to the theater."

IS SHE DANGEROUS?

So far the only charge against Gale Sondergaard is that she pleaded the Fifth Amendment when asked whether she was a Communist. But let us assume that she had openly confessed herself a Communist, should she be debarred from appearing as an actress?

That is the question which Americans must increasingly ask themselves now that the Supreme Court has ruled that even in Government posts it is the "sensitive" ones which must be watched, not the routine minor ones. And if an actress recites lines written by someone else, is hers a "sensitive" post in the entertainment world?

In trade unions many members who will battle to the last ditch to prevent a Communist or flagrant fellow traveler from becoming an officer of a union will take it for granted that some rank and file members are Communists, and will take no steps to get them ousted from the union.

BELGRANO'S BLAST

The standards of judgment in these matters by Legion leaders are too often preposterous. Take F. N. Belgrano Jr., never known in Oakland as a liberal or friend of labor, chairman of the board of Transamerica and a former national commander of the Legion. At the recent state convention of the Legion Belgrano took occasion to denounce not only the Communists, the Fascists and the Socialists, as he lumped them, but others who, he declared, are spreading "alien doctrines dangerous to this country."

One wonders who these dreadful spreaders of "alien doctrines" are, and learns from Belgrano that "the most dangerous, in my opinion, are known as the economic planners, the social planners and the welfare planners."

New Dealers, in short, labor people, and most Democrats!

Printing at Local Shops Is Urged

Roy Heinrichs, Typographical 36, secretary of the Allied Printing Trades Council here, told the Central Labor Council this week that he is distressed to note that some unions are sending their work to Chicago, Los Angeles, St. Louis, Cincinnati, and other far away places.

He suggested that the officers of such unions would do well to put their work out to union shops here.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

The following unions will find notices of important meetings called by their officers on page 3 of this issue of the Journal.

AUTO MACHINISTS 1546

STEAMFITTERS 342

SHEET METAL WORKERS 216

HAYWARD PAINTERS 1178

CARPENTERS PICNIC

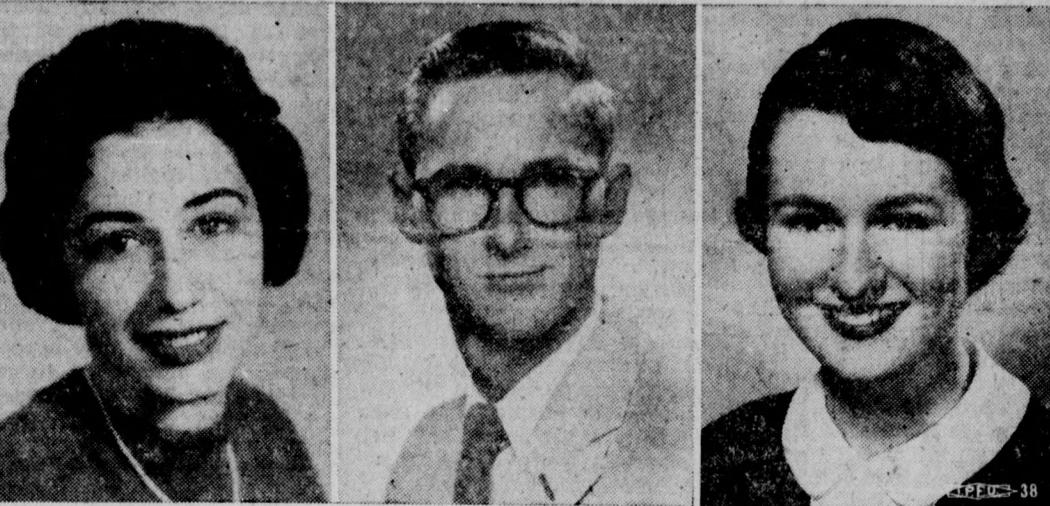
PAINTERS DISTRICT

COUNCIL 16

BERKELEY PAINTERS 40

PAINTERS LOCAL 127

MILLMEN 550



THE THREE YOUNG PEOPLE shown above will be guests of honor at the 1956 convention of the California State Federation of Labor, AFL, to be held in Long Beach, August 13-17. They are winners of the sixth annual scholarship contest sponsored by the state AFL for high school seniors in California and Hawaii. From left to right they are: Rochelle Leiter, North Hollywood High School, North Hollywood; Eldon Clingan, Merced Union High School, Merced; and Peggy Jean Bosworth, St. Mary's High School, Stockton. All three will receive \$500 awards to advance their college education.

Restaurants, Taverns Struck In Oakland and North County

Some 4000 restaurant and tavern employees went on strike Monday noon against establishments in Oakland, Berkeley, and all parts of the county north of 105th avenue, except an area around the University of California. South of 105th avenue a settlement was reached recently by Hayward Culinary and Bartenders 823.

Cemetery Strike Result Declared Very Big Victory

The unions on strike are Cooks 228, Culinary Alliance 31, and Bartenders 822; they constitute the Joint Board of which H. J. Badger, Cooks 228, is secretary-treasurer. Badger said that as soon as the strike was called many establishments began signing up with the union.

Badger said that the vote of union members for the strike was 3000 to 404, and throughout the negotiations the sentiment for a strike if a satisfactory settlement could not be reached had been overwhelming.

The striking unions are asking a 5 percent increase, and the highest the employers have offered is 2 percent.

Picketing was being set up, said Badger, at the discretion of the unions.

It is estimated between 1400 and 1500 establishments are affected by the strike.

Restaurants in the UC area are covered by a contract with a later expiration date than those struck.

Badger told East Bay Labor Journal that Wednesday morning he received 150 offers by employers to sign contracts.

Fifteen of these, he said, were from members of the East Bay Restaurant Owners Association.

The employers, said Badger, had toward the end offered to raise their bid slightly, but were told it was too late, as that wouldn't be fair to those who had signed for 5%, and the sentiment was overwhelming among the union members for the full 5%.

Wednesday the employers were going to the Superior Court asking for a preliminary injunction against picketing. Some of their leaders indicated that if they failed to get the injunction they would accept the 5% proposal of the union.

Another new feature is calling of two hours, that is, if a man is called in for work and gets only a little work, he must be paid for at least two hours.

Then there is an important strengthening of the seniority clause, and a provision for the supply to the workers of disinfectant soap and protective clothing for those working at removals.

Effective March 1 of next year there will be a 9-cent hourly increase, a new provision for 5-day sick leave, and an improvement in vacations. Vacations are now two weeks after one year, but under the new provision they will increase one day a year up to 10 years, when they will be three weeks.

Also next year employers will begin paying full health and welfare cost for the worker and all dependents.

In 1958 the wages will go up 6 cents an hour, and another new feature begins: 10 cents per hour pension payment.

On their return to work the union made it clear that if the striking embalmers picketed any of the cemeteries the picket line will be observed.

Becker says that altogether on the scale and fringe benefits side, "it's about a 55-cent package."

\$2.37 Billion for Labor Department

WASHINGTON (AFL-CIO) — Congress has passed and Pres. Eisenhower has signed a \$2.37 billion appropriation bill to run the Labor Dept. and the Welfare Dept. for the fiscal year beginning last July 1.

The compromise bill reported by a Joint House-Senate committee jumped funds for medical research by a whopping 80 percent. Eisenhower asked an additional \$24 million, the House raised this by \$9 million, the Senate by another \$48 million, and all these funds remained in the final earmarked \$184 million appropriation.

The negotiations are under a reopening clause, but there is a provision that if an agreement cannot be reached within 30 days of the July 1 expiry date, the union can strike.

Labor Women Not Registering, Says Political Leader

A meeting of the recently formed women's division of the AFL-CIO Committee for Political Education (COPE) was held this week at the Labor Temple.

Last week's meeting was very successful and had a large attendance, CLC Assistant Secretary Richard Groulx told the Central Labor Council.

Elizabeth Mackin, Office Em-



MARGARET THORNBURGH

ployees 29, temporary secretary of the new group, told East Bay Labor Journal that the speech at last week's meeting by Margaret Thornburgh, COPE director of the women's division for the West, was both inspiring and the other cemeteries have been doing for some years.

All the employers as of March 1 begin paying for health insurance for the worker's wife as well as for himself. This will run to \$3 or \$4 per month depending on which of the two plans a worker is under.

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(Continued on Page 3)

Office Union 29 And Kaiser Health

Office Employees 29 got strike sanction this week from the Central Labor Council against the Kaiser Health Plan and its hospital, and a special committee was named by the CLC executive committee to confer today (Friday) with the employer and Local 29 representatives.

President John Kinnick told East Bay Labor Journal that there have been 8 sessions with the employers, beginning in May, that the union is asking 6 cents an hour effective July 1, and another 6 cents effective July 1, 1957.

The employer has offered 3 cents July 1, 2½ cents January 1, 1957, and 3¾ cents October 1, 1957, with the contract extended to October 1, 1958. As now drawn the contract would expire July 1, 1958.

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Machinists' Wage Boost Runs From 15½c to 33½c Hr.

Bay Area lodges of the International Association of Machinists, which had set Monday of this week as the deadline for a strike if the majority of the 9 lodges failed to accept the employers' final offer, did not find it necessary to strike.

The lodges accepted the terms offered by the California Metal Trades Association, which represents the majority of the shops. Negotiations were continued with the independent shops on the basis of the CMTA accepted agreement. But it was assumed that the independents would follow the CMTA terms, which has been their custom.

More than 6000 machinists were directly affected by the CMTA agreement, and when the independents fall in line a total of some 10,000 will be getting the new scale and fringe benefits in Alameda, Contra Costa, and San Francisco counties.

The contract is for one year, expiring July 1, 1957. Co-Chairmen of the negotiating committee are Mel Thompson of Oakland and Anthony Ballerini of San Francisco. John T. Schiavenna of Oakland, secretary of the negotiating committee, said that the advance in scale ranges from 15½ cents an hour to 33½ cents, depending on classification.

Unskilled workers in the production lodges, 1518 and 1566 in East Bay and 1327 in San Francisco, get an advance of 15½ cents an hour, bringing them to \$2.02 an hour; various degrees of skilled workers in the production lodges get boosts up to 29½ cents an hour.

The journeymen lodges, 284 in Alameda county, 224 in Contra Costa, and 68 in San Francisco, get 29½ cents an hour, bringing them to \$2.50 per hour; with the maintenance machinists in those lodges rising to \$3.30 per hour over the rate for journeymen.

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The District Council of Carpenters at its meeting Tuesday night accepted the agreement, and ordered the men back to work for the signing associations' members, but with the proviso that the settlement will be sent to referendum of the membership, returnable August 1.

Roughly the settlement could be called a 52½ cents 3-year package.

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BTC: Carpenters Win 'Pattern Pact'; Hod Carrier Progress

The Building Trades Council meeting this week was opened and encouraged by reports of great progress made in two strikes, the Bay District Council of Carpenters having achieved a settlement with three big associations of contractors which it is expected will be the pattern for settlement with the holdout groups; and Hod Carriers 166 having signed up great numbers of the bricklaying contractors.

Full details of the settlement with three big contractors' associations were given the next morning, Wednesday, by Chester Bartalini, executive secretary, District Council of Carpenters.

The associations in agreement with the Carpenters are: Peninsula General Contractors & Builders Association Marin Builders Association, and the Associated Home Builders of San Francisco. None of these is in Alameda county, but big contractors such as Branden and Rousseau had already signed interim agreements in this county, and many others as well, and it was believed the action of the three big associations would influence the holdouts.

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The strike lasted only 4 days. Preparations had been made by Plumbers 444 and Steamfitters 342 to cooperate if occasion arose.

Plumbers

HOW TO BUY**Mortgage Expense Steeper**By SIDNEY MARGOLIUS
Labor Consumer Advisor for Labor Journal

Moderate-income families are being further pushed out of the housing market by high mortgage interest rates and ballooning mortgage "fees" piled on top of higher prices for houses and land.

In many cases, the additional mortgage charges are concealed from the buyer until he "closes" the deal for the house and finds he is paying unexpectedly large fees. If he has an FHA mortgage, he must pay an often-unadvertised and unnecessarily high insurance premium for the life of the mortgage. Other concealed mortgage charges may be hidden in the price of the home itself, and may never be realized by the buyer.

Here is how mortgage costs have been jacked up by extra fees and premiums:

Closing costs now often range from \$250 to \$400. Many lenders now include under closing costs and extra "origination" fee of 1 per cent of the amount of mortgage "for expenses in arranging and closing the loan." This, of course, is in addition to mortgage interest. Other more traditional closing costs also have risen sharply. The United States Savings and Loan League reports that charges for recording mortgage and deed, appraisal and credit investigation have tripled in recent years and cost of title insurance also has risen considerably.

Closing costs vary considerably in different areas, and among different lenders. But here is a typical closing cost for an \$11,000 mortgage:

"Origination fee" of 1 per cent, \$110; survey of lot, \$20; examining title and title insurance, \$85; appraisal, \$25, and credit investigation, \$3; recording mortgage and deed, \$12. The total is \$255. In the case of an FHA mortgage, the mortgage insurance premium for the first year would add another \$55, for a total of \$310. This does not include deposits required for taxes and property insurance, which would raise the closing costs another \$125 to \$200, but are actually a payment of anticipated ex-

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JEFFERY CORLEAN**Women in This World**
By EDITH McCONN

LONG AGO, when the majority of Americans lived on farms, and towns were few and far between, the peddler was a common and welcome sight at the door of many a farm house.

Opening his battered case loaded with notions, pieces of yardage and other small luxuries and necessities of life, he was pretty certain to make a sale every place he stopped.

As cities grew and more people left the farms to live in them, the old-time peddler pretty well vanished from the scene.

In his place, however, there has grown up a door-to-door selling business that would make that poor old chap's eyes pop out.

In spite of the fact that most people nowadays seem to swarm into stores in every town and city, door-to-door selling now grosses some three and a half billion dollars a year. Cookware, curtains, lingerie, toilet articles and items too numerous to mention are now in the "peddler's pack."

It is, however, no longer individual enterprise, as it was in the old days. Big companies blanket the nation, so many, in fact that they have formed the "National Association of Direct Selling Companies."

Over a million people are engaged in this work. Some are college students, working part time to get through college. Others are housewives, using spare time to earn extra money. Many, however, are full time salespersons, and these are the kind most companies want. It is said that some can earn as much as \$10,000 a year.

Techniques have changed. Doorbells are not just rung at random. Contacts are made by reference from one customer to another, or by telephone.

While many busy folk do not like to have their time taken by a salesman at the door, many people like it. It is a friendly, folksy way to shop, they feel, and a welcome break in the day's dull routine.

People don't change much, it seems, and ancient folkways, once abandoned, have ways of cropping up in new forms in this still-growing country of ours.

Right to Scab Is Failure, Montana

HELENA, MONT. (AFLCIO)—"Right-to-scab" proponents noted that young women today generally were taller than they were in 1930, when the first stewardesses took off. And the tall stewardess will be in no danger of bumping her head since the cabin of today's aircraft is a foot or more higher than that of the first airliners.

The company is also lowering the minimum age requirement from 21 to 20 to attract younger girls right from college. The other requirements remain the same: the applicant must be less than 27 years of age, no shorter than 5 feet 2 inches, no heavier than 135 pounds. Her health must be good and her vision satisfactory. She must be a registered nurse or have had two years of college or three years of business experience in work where she makes contacts with the public.

SIX PAID HOLIDAYS or more a year were the rule for nearly all plant and office workers recently studied by the U.S. Labor Department.

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Child-rearing**Creative***

Mothers who feel they have no particular creative abilities and fret about their youngsters' artistic talents should take self-inventory. In the opinion of one artist-designer, even the least imaginative of homemakers "creates" something every day—with scissors, paint brush, needle, scotch tape, hammer or egg-beater.

The mother who beams with satisfaction at such handiwork as made-over curtains is not concerned whether her method was the "one right way," the designer observed recently. Rather, it is "her way." This kind of independent approach should apply, she believes, to youthful arts and crafts pursuits.

In her estimation, mothers have heard the words "create" and "art" so often that many misunderstand the very essence of creativity. She feels it is in its truest sense, the recreation and fun enjoyed in "making something on one's own."

EARNINGS of California factory workers rose to new all-time highs in May, Ernest B. Webb, California Director of Industrial Relations, announces. Factory workers in the State earned a record average of \$2.21 per hour in May, up 11 cents from May a year ago.

STATES WHICH HAVE APPROVED the dual payments, in addition to Illinois, are Kentucky, Florida, Delaware, Arkansas, Washington, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Michigan, Massachusetts, Connecticut and California. The only state which has gone in the opposite direction so far is Ohio.

Voters in the Buckeye state refused to approve the GAW payments in a statewide referendum. However, an interpretation of the existing Ohio law is still being awaited.

ALFICO TEACHERS and the University of California Institute of Industrial Relations will sponsor a two-day conference August 3-4 on the Berkeley campus.

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS!

160-Acre Water Clause Menaced, State Fed Warns

The House of Representatives recently gave final approval to a Senate-House compromise on HR 5881, the so-called small water projects bill for western reclamation states authored by Clair Engle (D., California) which would undo the 55-year old 160-acre rule in reclamation law, says the State Federation Newsletter.

But great many women wives of unionists, or themselves members of unions, are slow to realize the need for political activity, she said.

Under the bill, interest-free loans of up to \$5,000,000 could be made on water and power projects of local public agencies approved by the Department of the Interior. An overall limit of \$10,000,000 on project costs is set in the bill.

Rather than applying the standard provisions of the excess lands law, the bill contains the so-called "Engle formula" in which an individual landowner would be permitted to buy water for land in excess of 160 acres if he paid the interest on that portion of the loan which enabled him to get the extra water.

At the present, reclamation law prohibits sale of extra water from federal reclamation projects for use on lands held by one owner in excess of 160 acres for himself, or 320 acres for man and wife.

The inclusion of the Engle formula in the small projects bill—if it becomes law—is expected to set a far-reaching precedent which will be applied to other reclamation projects, such as the San Luis Project on the west side of San Joaquin Valley.

The Engle formula to compromise away the half-century old law against monopoly was proposed by him a few years ago in a major address before the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco.

Experts on water and power in Washington say that only the Senate can save the 160-acre law from destruction by Engle. The conference committee compromise is now pending before the upper body.

IRON EMBOSSED COTTONS on the wrong side, and with a turkish toweling under them, to keep the embossed surface from becoming flat.

If your home is heated with gravity warm air, a portable electric fan placed near the central register on a bookshelf or similar high object can be a great help in pushing the warmed air where it is needed most.

OLD AUTOMOBILE LICENSE PLATES can make colorful wall decorations for a basement play room.

SWEETEN WHIPPED CREAM with strained honey for new flavor and to keep the whipped cream firm longer.

TO REMOVE ADHESIVE TAPE STAINS from cotton fabric apply kerosene, wash in soapsuds.

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UNION MADE THROUGHOUT

WEAR Dr. Eugene Laisne's Progressive Eye-Comfort FarNear Glasses

Have your eyes examined and glasses fitted with complete satisfaction

DRUGSTORES

Labor Men Active In Plan to Bring Industries Here

Three AFLCIO men served on the 22-member special committee of citizens which has turned in a report to the Board of Supervisors on new methods which should be adopted to encourage industries to locate in Alameda county.

The Industrial Fact Finding Committee was set up due to the disappointment felt when in May the huge new General Motors plant decided to settle in Sunnyvale rather than in Alameda county.

The committee was headed by R. T. Nahas, builder and developer, of Castro Valley. Various subcommittees were named and Jack Kopke, Paint Makers 1101, was made chairman of the subcommittee on Highways, Freeways, and County Roads. This group urged: "All city and county agencies should vigorously initiate and support plans to further county and regional freeways. To such should be added high capacity feeder streets and adequate parking facilities in all commercial and industrial areas."

Chester Bartalini, Carpenters 36, executive secretary, District Council of Carpenters, was on the subcommittee for Zoning Procedures, Ordinances, and Practices, which contended that "present zoning ordinances give no protection whatsoever to industry and consequently retard industrial development, inasmuch as residences or other types of non-industrial development can encroach on industrial zones."

Frank A. Robello, international representative, United Auto Workers, was on the subcommittee on Industrial Research, which declared that "Alameda County should assume the leadership in the creation of an industrial development plan for the entire county, including incorporated areas."

Chairman Nahas, speaking for the entire committee, told the Supervisors.

"At the present time, Alameda County is not competitive (in the attraction of industries) . . . and will continue to lose out to more progressive neighboring communities unless an effective program is begun as soon as possible.

"No area can encourage stable industrial growth without a long-range program. Lack of advance planning and a dynamic program to carry out the plans will jeopardize public and private investments and weaken the economic base of the community.

"In the matter of attracting desirable industrial development, we are sellers in a buyer's market. Communities which do not create and maintain planned industrial districts cannot be considered as serious competitors in the field of industrial development.

"At present, we are fighting with our hands tied behind our backs."

SENATOR GOLDWATER'S EYESIGHT FAILS HIM

Senator Goldwater, (R., Ariz.) told the Senate that while he had been critical of some articles in the nation's press, "I have never found this press to be a one-party press."

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Up The Ladder With Painters
No. 40

Painters 40 Will Elect Delegates

By BEN RASNICK



To All Members of East Bay Automotive Machinists 1546

You are herewith officially notified that Lodge 1546 meets in regular session on the first and third Tuesday of each month at the hour of 8:00 P.M. in the Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland 12, California.

Meeting hall will be posted on the bulletin board in the lobby of said Temple and you are herewith officially requested to be in attendance.

Fraternally,
A. J. HAYES,
Recording Secretary

Steamfitters 342

This is to advise the membership of Steamfitters Union No. 342 that our next meeting, to be held on Thursday, Aug. 2, 1956, will be a special called meeting for the purpose of acting on the resolution pertaining to financial matters, and election of delegates to the State Federation of Labor Convention, to be held in Long Beach.

Fraternally,
JAMES MARTIN,
Financial Sec'y, Bus. Mgr.

Sheet Metal Workers Local No. 216

Death Assessment Nos. 393 and 394 are now due and payable. Brother Charles C. Walter, No. 131093, a member of Local No. 273, Santa Barbara passed away on April 10, 1956 and Brother Fred E. McCormick, No. 75386, a member of Local No. 108, Los Angeles passed away on May 11, 1956.

Fraternally yours,
LLOYD CHILD,
Business Representative

Hayward Painters 1178

We're scheduled to attend another regular meeting come July 20, Friday night, beginning at 8 p.m. The attendance at the last three or four meetings have been gratifying to all of us. Keep it up.

Fraternally yours,
ROBERT G. MILLER,
Recording Secretary

Carpenters' Picnic

Alameda County Carpenters Locals will hold their joint picnic Sunday, July 22, 1956, at Linda Vista Park, Mission San Jose. Everyone knows Carpenters have a wonderful picnic. Big, open-air floor show with high class talent. Dancing in ballroom, races for young and old. Free candy for kids.

Hoping to see all the friends of the Carpenters on Sunday, July 22, 1956, at Mission San Jose below Niles. A good time all.

Yours fraternally,
PICNIC COMMITTEE

District Council of Painters 16

TWINOAKS 3-2966

Call this number to report any unfair jobs you see. Council Office hours are 9 to 1 and 2 to 5 on week days and 9 to 12 on Sat. If you live in Contra Costa County you can call BEacon 2-3380 or Martinez 1312 and the Council will be notified.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Effective as of July 1, 1956 the Bay Area Painters Welfare Fund is beginning a new policy year.

We wish to remind the members that all bills incurred for claims PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1956, MUST BE IN THE OFFICE OF THE BAY AREA PAINTERS WELFARE FUND ON OR BEFORE SEPT. 30, 1956.

No claims or bills will be recognized or paid under the contract of the previous year after that date.

Get your bills in before Sept. 30, 1956.

Fraternally yours,
FLOYD PEASLEE,
Executive Secretary

Painters Local Union No. 40

Our next regularly scheduled meeting July 27th has been designated a special meeting to vote on two proposed local union assessments and to nominate and elect one delegate to District Council No. 16, and to nominate and elect one or more delegates to the State Federation of Labor Convention. The meeting will be called to order at 8:00 P.M. at our regular meeting hall at 2651 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley.

Please make every effort to attend.

Fraternally Yours,
BEN RASNICK,
Recording Secretary

Painters Local 127 Special Notice!

The next regular meeting will be held on July 26th, 1956. There will be a good report on the progress of the new District Council System.

Be sure to carry your Building Trades Card while working, these are the new orders from the Council, or the Business Agents will be obliged to send you back to your Local to get your CARD.

There are several Verified Dues Books in the Office, please come in and get yours.

Fraternally yours,
EDGAR S. GULBRANSEN,
Recording Secretary

Millmen 550

Attention of members is called to the fact that the big Annual Carpenters' Picnic, to be held Sunday, July 22, at Linda Vista Park, Mission San Jose, is for the Millmen as well as for other local unions of the International Brotherhood of Carpenters.

Tickets will be available at Millmen 550's meeting Friday night, July 20. Members are cordially urged to attend the Carpenters' picnic.

Yours fraternally,
ANTHONY RAMOS,
Business Representative

Fraternally yours,
EDGAR S. GULBRANSEN,
Recording Secretary

Millmen 550

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Tickets will be available at Millmen 550's meeting Friday night, July 20. Members are cordially urged to attend the Carpenters' picnic.

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ANTHONY RAMOS,
Business Representative

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Recording Secretary

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East Bay Labor Journal

1622 EAST 12th STREET
OAKLAND 6, CALIFORNIA
ANDOVER 1-3981-3982

FOUNDED APRIL 3, 1926
Only Official Publication of
AFL Central Labor and Building
Construction Trades Councils
of Alameda County.

FRIDAY, JULY 20, 1956

OPINIONS

HE NEVER SHRANK

Mr. Truman had to make many choices in situations in which there was no right way, but only an assortment of wrong ones—the situations proliferated by war and war's aftermath. * * * It takes uncommon steadiness of mind to commit a nation to a choice between evils and, having made the choice, neither to misrepresent it nor to wallow in regrets and unnerving doubts. If any one thing seems more nearly certain than another about Harry Truman as President, it is that he never shrank from a necessary choice.—Louis W. Koenig in "The Truman Administration: Its Principles and Practice."

* * *

TEACHERS' PAY

OUCH! Did that 3½ per cent salary hike in the school department have to extend through all of the top administrative brackets? Aside from Superintendent Selmer Berg, most of the administrative salaries were raised to a new high—even newly hired public relations man F. Wayne Flinn, who was hired at an \$11,500 for an 11 months work year, will enjoy the increase before he's ever pushed a pencil public relations-wise.

If the raise hadn't included top administrative brass, the teachers could have had a 4 per cent raise as originally planned.—Alameda County Observer.

* * *

TONSORIALIST

No matter how expert he may be with scissors and clippers, a barber won't become a high-class tonsorialist unless he clears his shop of saucy magazines and stocks more intellectual literature—Conrad V. Mangano, president of the Connecticut Master Barbers Association.

* * *

TRUE OR FALSE?

Some young husbands and wives need to beat each other to remove certain complexes. These canings and slappings relieve tensions and put couples more at their ease during the first months of married life.—The Rev. Francis W. McCaskill of Glasgow, Scotland.

* * *

WHY WE SPEED

The thrill everyone feels from swift acceleration and speed may be based on a desire to recapture the past delights of infancy such as being rocked, tossed, dandled or swung by mother.—Dr. Max Hayman, Compton, Calif., Sanitarium.

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SAN LEANDRO

EDITORIALS

Why the 8-Column Headlines?

Just why most of the daily papers thought the "news" that General Eisenhower was going to run again for the Presidency rated an 8-column headline is a mystery that must be left to experts in editorial psychiatry.

Every American past the age of 3½ knew he was going to run again. If he didn't, a certain unpopular grand old party would be blasted out of the polling booths in November. Big corporations put retired Generals on their boards of directors as a front. Surely the U. S. is a big enough corporation to afford the same kind of a front—so goes the reasoning of the GOP leaders.

Congressman Joseph W. Martin, House minority leader, unintentionally by a slip of the tongue said the other day that a certain policy was based on "the judgment of the President and General Motors." He meant to say "General Staff," but he spoke more truthfully than he meant. And it is certainly the judgment of General Eisenhower and General Motors that only a famous front man can pull the unpopular grand old party through.

Robert J. Donovan, the journalist who was given the run of the Cabinet minutes and other confidential documents when he was writing his new book, "Eisenhower: The Inside Story," tells about one Cabinet meeting where "the President cut through this talk to ask what was the Administration doing to get legislation through Congress."

Can you imagine Harry Truman or Franklin Roosevelt asking his cabinet what "the Administration" was doing about legislation? But front men for big corporate enterprises can't be expected to keep in touch with such matters, of course.

* * *

Mr. Hennessy's Press Agent

When the carpenters went on strike John I. Hennessy, chief spokesman for the employers' Associated Home Builders, wrote a "letter" to William W. Hoffman, president of the Oakland Board of Education. In that "letter" he contended that if the carpenters won the strike, "a major portion of your construction will be placed in jeopardy unless your board can find some way of obtaining more tax dollars from the public."

Hennessy implies that the \$40,000,000 school bonds adopted in June by the voters of Oakland will disappear in smoke if the carpenters get an increase, but that "the Associated Home Builders of the Greater Eastbay, Inc., will do its best in this situation as it has and will in all others, to see that the outcome is in the public interest." He contends that the employers, in resisting the carpenters, are "acting in your and the public's interest as well as our own."

The implication here is that all collective bargaining should cease until the schools get built, and that school authorities and the taxpaying public are to accept the Home Builders' resistance to the union as a sign of civic righteousness.

The carpenters undoubtedly have more children in the public school system than do the members of the Home Builders. They are therefore greatly interested in seeing the schools in order. It is doubtful, to put it mildly, that the carpenters went on strike in an effort to wreck the school system.

Voting for school bonds is part of the American system, and so is collective bargaining, with the strikes that sometimes follow collective bargaining. We doubt very much if Mr. Hennessy's "letter," or, to give it a more correct name, the handout some superstars press agent wrote for him, will convince anyone that all normal economic activities, including collective bargaining, should be suspended because school bonds have been voted.

Nor will many people take seriously Mr. Hennessy's implication that the employers' associations are the heaven-appointed guardian of the public interest.

Casey Was a Republican, Yes Sir!

K. C. Adams, known among friends as "Casey" Adams, died recently at his home in Florida, aged 69. He served the United Mine Workers in various capacities for many years, and had long been editor of its Journal, going into semi-retirement in 1948, but continuing to write its hit 'em hard editorials until three years ago.

Casey Adams, though born in Mississippi, was no fair-weather Republican. He was so devoted to the Republican cause that when John L. Lewis, his longtime friend and associate, supported Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1936, Casey couldn't take it, and quit the paper and the United Mine Workers' staff. When John L. made his famous speech in 1940, supporting Wilkie against FDR, back went Casey to his old job, and joyously lambasted FDR in the campaign which ensued.

There's nothing in the labor movement quite like the United Mine Workers, or like John L., or like Casey Adams. Rugged all, respected all, and confoundedly troublesome all to anyone who wishes to get human beings tightly and neatly packed in sardine cans of conformity and predictability.

Margaret Thornburgh's Sound Advice

Margaret Thornburgh, AFL-CIO women's political leader, says that "the first job is to convert our own labor people to the realization of the need for political activity. Once they're converted, they'll convert people outside the labor movement."

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When a Fella Needs a Friend!



Oakland Firemen's Unions Asked For Ball On July 25th Wage Information

The 25th Annual Fireman's Ball for the Oakland Fire Department will be held at the Oakland Auditorium, Saturday, July 28, 1956 at 8:00 p.m. This annual variety show and ball is held for the benefit of widows and orphans.

A 2-hour show, consisting of eight outstanding acts, will be followed by dancing to the music of Don Frank's orchestra until 1:00 a.m.

Admission is \$1. Children under 12 free.

The committee assisting the president of the OFD Relief Fund Association, Chief Basch, is: Chief Elmer Crosswell, Chief Robert Costa, Captains Charles Bannoworth and James McMillan, Engineer Howard Wright, Hosemen Richard Cadigan and William McHugh.

PRESIDENT JOSEPH A. McDONOUGH of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor has been named a member of the board of trustees of Pennsylvania State University by Gov. George M. Leader.

Tell 'em you saw it in the East Bay Labor Journal!

Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell has asked that labor unions and contractors' organizations in the highway construction industry "help the Department" by sending to Washington headquarters copies of prevailing collective bargaining agreements for consideration in making wage determinations.

These determinations have been made necessary by the fact that the Davis-Bacon Act, providing that the Secretary of Labor is empowered to find the prevailing rate of pay for workers on the road-building program, was finally after a long struggle in Congress, declared applicable to the road project.

Mitchell stressed the importance of keeping current contracts on file so that wage determinations can be up to date.

He has also asked that the contracts be accompanied by wage project, and pay roll data, showing the typical wages on every job.

Contract data should be sent to James P. Mitchell, Secretary of Labor, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.

ILWU Still Seeks That Same 'Peace'

The executive board of the Independent International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union headed by Harry Bridges has decided that neither the Republican nor Democratic candidates for the Presidency are worth bothering with.

The executive board, which has long favored closer relations with Russia, said in its statement:

"We have so far seen or heard nothing from any of the Presidential aspirants of either party which holds out the promise of moving our country more resolutely along the road toward world peace."

COMMONWEALTH CLUB, by a majority of nearly 5 to 1, has gone on record as believing that "the advantages of U. S. membership in the U. N. outweigh the disadvantages." By a slightly greater majority (1584 to 304) the club favored the U. S. continuing membership in the U. N. as "now organized and functioning."

EMPLOYMENT reached a new all-time high of 66,5 million in June.

ARE YOU REGISTERED?

Pitts to Head Up South Fed Office

Opening of a southern California branch office of the California branch office of the California State Federation of Labor has been announced by C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the state AFL organization.

Haggerty said that Thomas L. Pitts, State Federation president, has been named to head the new office which will open August 1 at 530 West Sixth Street in Los Angeles.

Curtis J. Hyans has also been assigned to the new southern California unit, Haggerty said.

Headquarters of the California State Federation of Labor have been in San Francisco since founding of the organization in 1901.

Haggerty said the increasing importance of southern California as a trade union center made the creation of a district office in Los Angeles imperative.

Pitts, a longtime State Federation official, has been state AFL president since 1950.

He was first elected to the State Federation executive council in 1941 as a vice president from the Los Angeles district.

In accepting his new post, Pitts will take a leave of absence from his present job as secretary of Wholesale Delivery Drivers, Local 848, Los Angeles.

The sessions will be the third in a series held this year to effect merger of the State Federation and the CIO California Industrial Union Council.

As a result of the May meetings on the merger question, the state AFL executive council has voted to seek 1956 convention authority for calling of special merger convention if the occasion warrants.

The national AFL-CIO has given state and city federations two years in which to merge. The two-year period will expire in December, 1957.

I. Q. Kept Secret

By a 3-2 vote, the Berkely Board of Education has decided that the results of I. Q. and other "special" tests should not be disclosed to parents. However, when parents request them, they may learn the results of all the "standardized" achievement tests.

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CTU Helped Kill The Parasite Law

President Larry Ross of Commercial Telegraphers 208 is proud of the part a member of a sister local in New Iberia, La., played in getting the State's "right to work" law repealed.

A. J. Provost, CTU representative in New Iberia, felt the real name of the law should have been "the labor parasite law."

"In Louisiana," he said, "we expect each man to pay his share of the benefits he enjoys. There's no room here for labor parasites." He worked untiringly for the repeal of the law.

Provost pointed out in his arguments that joining a union is not forced on anyone.

"Joining a union is a condition of employment," Provost said, "just like the climate, the location, the kind of people you have to work with, the attitude of the supervisors and various other situations."

"If you don't like the climate you go elsewhere to work and if you don't like the union you go elsewhere to work. There is no law that forces a man to work in an undesirable place against his will."

CONSTRUCTION activity rose to \$20 billion during the first 6 months this year, a new high for the period.

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help of modern appliances. Take Mrs. Mize, who makes the most of labor-saving appliances. She's 34—and mother to a brood of eight! (18-year-old Bob's in the Army.) Are you, too, making the most of modern appliances? With gas and electricity so cheap in California, you can run a whole houseful of appliances all day long for about half the price of most popular hair-sprays.

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